

Module code: MOD010543	Version: 2 Date Amended: 19/Mar/2026
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1. Module Title
Wills and the Administration of Estates

2a. Module Leader
Kathryn Jones

2b. School
Faculty of Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship at ARU Peterborough

2c. Faculty
ARU Peterborough

3a. Level
6

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	ARP: LLB (Hons) Law U1434; LLB (Hons) Law U1436 Law EXD		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

In this module, you will develop a systematic understanding of key aspects of the law governing wills and the administration of estates. For example, you will consider what might happen if a will, or part of a will, is invalid. You will also learn more about how and when challenges of a will can be made. Writing and legal research skills are key to your success in this module. You will apply relevant core legal principles and rules appropriately and effectively to realistic client-based and ethical problems and situations. You will be provided with relevant case studies in taxation and numeracy support will be provided.

In addition to studying wills and the administration of estates (sometimes referred to as 'The law of Succession') as an academic component of legal studies, this module is designed to reflect some elements required by the Bar Standards Board (BSB) and Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA). Some elements of Ethics and Professional Conduct are pervasive, and relevant elements of Solicitors Accounts will be considered.

6b. Outline Content

This module is designed to reflect necessary elements required by the Bar Standards Board (BSB) and Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA). Some elements of Ethical and Professional Conduct are pervasive, and some elements of Solicitors Accounts will be considered.

Indicative content aligns with requirements of the BSB and SRA, taking into consideration developments by, and requirements of, these professional bodies insofar as possible. Content will therefore include, as a minimum:

- Essential requirements for a valid will
- The personal representatives
- Interpretation of wills, alterations and amendments
- Codicils
- Revocation of wills
- The intestacy rules
- Property passing outside of the estate
- Getting the grant of representation
- Claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975
- Inheritance tax
- Will trusts: trustees and beneficiaries

Writing and legal research skills are key to your success in this module. You will also apply relevant core legal principles and rules appropriately and effectively to realistic client-based and ethical problems and situations. You will be supported to:

- Accurately identify issues
- Use appropriate methods and resources, and ensure that sources are up to date
- Cite accurately and appropriately
- Draft a will

You will be provided with case studies in inheritance taxation and relevant support will be provided. You will be supported with:

- Numeracy skills

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate a thorough knowledge and a clear and largely accurate understanding of the fundamental aspects of the law relating to wills and the administration of estates
2	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Apply the law relating to wills and the administration of estates to factual situations of moderate complexity such as are frequently encountered in legal practice, so as to identify the core issues involved and convey appropriate, reasoned solutions clearly in writing, using appropriate word processing skills
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	With limited guidance, identify and locate relevant primary and secondary material and use these to further their understanding of the law relating to wills and the administration of estates.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Apply simple numeracy skills to perform a calculation by applying rules, rates, percentages and thresholds to identify a correct figure.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	0	N/A	N/A
Other teacher managed learning	26	1-4	1 x 10 minute screencast per week over 12 weeks(total 2 hours). 1 x 2 hour workshops weekly (12 sessions in total). Sessions combine knowledge input, skills development, and active collaborative learning pedagogies.
Student managed learning	124	1-4	Independent reading, legal research, skills practice, PPDP reflection, and formative tasks via Canvas and the Legal Skills Hub.
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
3000 words. Component 010-1 Problem question(s) (up to 2000 words). Component 010-2 Assessed Piece (up to 1000 words)					

Assessment components for Element 010				
Component No.	Assessment Title	Submission Method	Weighting (%)	Components needed for Mark Calculation?
010/1	Problem question(s) (up to 2000 words)		70 (%)	All
010/2	Assessed Piece (up to 1000 words)		30 (%)	

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above**
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements**

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]